

ROUTING AND RECORD SHEET

SUBJECT: (Optional)

Monthly Report -- Seoul Bureau

FROM:

Chief, Operations Group

EXTENSION

NO.

DATE

January 1988

STAT

TO: (Officer designation, room number, and building)

DATE

OFFICER'S INITIALS

COMMENTS (Number each comment to show from whom to whom. Draw a line across column after each comment.)

RECEIVED

FORWARDED

1.

C/Ops

22 Feb

B
J

2.

3.

C/E&PS

23 Feb

J

4.

DD/FBIS

2/23

L

5.

D/FBIS

J

6.

7.

PO/RA

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Om

8.

SA/CD

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Out
B

9.

10.

C/AS

25 Feb

C

11.

12.

C/AG

1/3

m

Jan

13.

Admin Staff

14.

C/B&F

15.

Exec. Reg.



EMBASSY OF THE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA
FOREIGN BROADCAST INFORMATION SERVICE
SEOUL BUREAU



2 February 1988

FBIS-5604-88



MEMORANDUM FOR: Director, Foreign Broadcast Information Service
THROUGH: Chief, Operations Group
SUBJECT: Monthly Report -- Seoul Bureau -- January 1988

Feb 1 1988

I. GENERAL

A. The USSR and the PRC are among 161 nations that have applied for participation in the 1988 Seoul Olympics, promising the largest turnout in the history of the Olympics. North Korea and Cuba are among the 6 nations that have declined or have failed to respond to the Olympic invitations, but the IOC and South Korean Olympic officials have indicated they would keep the door open for those countries until the last minute.

B. U.S. pressure on the Republic of Korea to open its market to foreign trade continues to have repercussions within the Republic with newspaper editorials calling on the government to stand firm and reports of efforts to hold anti-American demonstrations and increased anti-American sentiment. On the afternoon of 28 January riot police were deployed around the Embassy and other foreign establishments in response to reports that radical students might attempt a takeover to protest the trade pressure. No demonstrators were in evidence and the riot police departed later in the evening.

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C. [redacted] has accepted the Bureau's offer to fill the Korean monitorial position vacant since the departure of [redacted] in October. After completing all the initial procedures for employment, [redacted] will begin work shortly.

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II. OPERATIONS

A. Editorial/Monitorial

1. After 6 months of almost uninterrupted intense political activity in the South, January was notable for the cooling off of political passions. Still, interparty wrangling over the date and size of electoral districts for the coming National Assembly elections accounted for a considerable portion of the Bureau's file on the Republic's affairs.

-2-

2. The South's Agency for National Security Planning held a press conference on 15 January to report on the results of its investigation into the disappearance of Korean Air Flight 858 in the air off Burma. The center of attention in the press conference was the televised confession by Kim Hyon-hui that she planted the bomb that blew up the plane on the express orders of North Korean heir apparent Kim Chong-il. A videotape of the press conference sent to Washington arrived in time to "contribute to a meeting on the topic" held on 22 January, according to NEAD. In an unusually prompt response, the North denied the allegations, terming them a "fabrication." Bureau editors used the experience gained in handling the situation as the basis for a review of procedures.

3. In other North-South developments, WPK Political Bureau member Ho Tam proposed a preliminary meeting with representatives from the South to be held on 19 February at Panmunjom, in furtherance of a proposal made by Kim Il-song in his New Year's Day address for a joint conference to discuss pending North-South issues. The North also promised "one thousand-fold retaliation" for any "provocations" in its response to the joint U.S.-ROK announcement of this year's "Team Spirit" exercise. Editors were kept busy keeping Embassy and other local consumers apprised of the latest developments in the situation.

4. A message from the Embassy in Beijing on 14 January reported that beginning 1 January TIANJIN RIBAO and JILIN RIBAO were no longer available through the international post office. The Bureau has contacted the U.S. Consulate in Shenyang, as well as Hong Kong Bureau, in an attempt to secure the papers through an alternate route, but experience with the regional paper NEI MENGKU RIBAO, which the Bureau is again receiving after it had been similarly unavailable for a year, leaves little room for optimism that alternate procurement can be obtained.

B. Communications

1. After contacts between the Bureau and the Taegu Automated Switching Center, Embassy communications officers, and Headquarters it was determined that the requirement necessitating switching off the Bureau's Autodin equipment had been postponed until April. Thus, the Bureau will continue to use its MODE V circuit backup until it receives formal notice of the termination date of the circuit.

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2. On 15 January the Bureau conducted another modem test with Okinawa Bureau. The Bureaus were able to communicate but again could not transmit a test message. Further tests will be conducted in an effort to identify and overcome the apparent problems.

C. Lateral Services

1. The Bureau sent a videotape of the NSP press conference on the results of the investigation into the disappearance of Korean Air Flight 858 to Headquarters by express mail in response to a NEAD request.

2. The Bureau has begun filing items from Changchun, Harbin, and Shenyang radios to the U.S. Consulate General in Shenyang in response to the Consulate's request. The political officer, on a visit to Seoul, has indicated satisfaction with the initial traffic and gave the Bureau a list of additional subject areas about which the Consulate would like to receive traffic.

D. Technical

1. The Bureau received the following equipment from Headquarters for its remote antenna site:

24 Watkins Johnson 8718A HF receivers, s/n 3038, 3041, 3058, 3723, 3724, 3765, 3767, 3768, 3771, 3772, 3773, 3775, 3776, 3777, 3778, 3779, 3780, 3783, 3784, 3792, 3793, 3801, 3802, 3803; 18 Delta RRC-2A receiver remote control units, s/n 027-043, 050.

2. The Bureau sent the following equipment to Headquarters for replacement or repair:

1 asynchronous I/O board for Watkins Johnson 8718 receiver, type 796037 and 1 IF interface board from same receiver, type 794275-1.

III. ADMINISTRATION

A. Personnel

1. Korean Unit Chief [] is still at home recuperating from stomach surgery.

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-4-

B. Buildings and Grounds

1. The Bureau's walls and ceilings were repainted and the woodwork restained during the month. Plans have been made to clean the carpeting and replace it where necessary throughout the Bureau..

IV. VISITS

A. Blaine D. Benedict, political officer from the U.S. Consulate General in Shenyang, visited the Bureau on the 13th for familiarization and consultations.



Chief, Seoul Bureau

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Attachment:
Monthly Production Report

cc: Chief, Okinawa Bureau
Chief, Hong Kong Bureau

Seoul Bureau Production Report for JANUARY 1988

I. TOTALS FROM ALL SOURCES:

TOTAL PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 656270
 TOTAL NON-PUBLISHABLE WORDAGE FILED DURING MONTH: 144680
 TOTAL NUMBER OF PUBLISHABLE ITEMS FILED DURING MONTH: 1624

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
II. INPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (minutes or issues per week)	13685.00 min.	5510.00 min.	127.69 issues
III. OUTPUT OF REGULAR COVERAGE: (publishable words per month)			

CHINA

Beijing International Service in Korean	4510		
Beijing City Service in Mandarin	620		
Changchun Jilin Provincial Service in Mandarin	15470		
Harbin Heilongjiang Provincial Service in Mandarin	15980		
Hohhot Nei Monggol Regional Service in Mandarin	14210		
Jinan Shandong Provincial Service in Mandarin	13190		
Shenyang Liaoning Provincial Service in Mandarin	9690		
Shijiazhuang Hebei Provincial Service in Mandarin	100		
Tianjin City Service in Mandarin	5180		
Beijing BEIJING RIBAO in Chinese			10710
Changchun JILIN RIBAO in Chinese			12350
Harbin HEILONGJIANG RIBAO in Chinese			4120
Jinan DAZHONG RIBAO in Chinese			9620
Shenyang DONGBEI JINGJI BAO in Chinese			1150
Shenyang LIAONING RIBAO in Chinese			16500
Shijiazhuang HEBEI RIBAO in Chinese			24920
Tianjin TIANJIN RIBAO in Chinese			11000

	BROAD- CASTS	PRESS AGENCIES	PUBLI- CATIONS
CLANDESTINE (Clandestine) Voice of National Salvation in Korean to South Korea	11200		
KOREA (NORTH) Pyongyang Domestic Service in Korean	102410		
Pyongyang Television Service in Korean	600		
Pyongyang KCNA in English		119420	
Pyongyang KULLOJA in Korean			1000
KOREA (SOUTH) Seoul Domestic Service in Korean	3930		
Seoul Television Service in Korean	8550		
Seoul YONHAP in English		36870	
Seoul CHOSON ILBO in Korean			2600
Seoul CHUANGANG ILBO in Korean			6600
Seoul Editorial Report on ROK Media Korean	2000		
Seoul HANGUK ILBO in Korean			1650
Seoul KYONGHYANG SINMUN in Korean			1050
Seoul SEOUL SINMUN in Korean			2550
Seoul SINTONG-A in Korean			0
Seoul THE KOREA HERALD in English		73180	
Seoul THE KOREA TIMES in English		101850	
Seoul TONG-A ILBO in Korean			8970
Seoul WOLGAN CHOSON in Korean			0
UNION OF SOVIET SOCIALIST REPUBLICS Moscow International Service in Korean	2520		